## Akron, Ohio 44316-0001

PATENT AND TRADEMARK DEPARTMENT 66-487 OR 64-0550

January 15, 2002

CABLE ADDRESS "GOODYEAR'AKRON" U.S.A. - TELEX

OUR REF: DN1999195USA

## VIA U.S. EXPRESS MAIL ELO14670155US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Re: International Patent Application No PCT/US99/21694

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed herewith is the necessary documentation for entering the National Phase for the subject patent application.

The national phase will begin on or about March 20, 2002.

Nancy T Krawczy

Reg. No. 38,74

NTK:klh

Encls: Transmittal Letter Under 35 U.S.C. §371

Declaration and Power of Attorney

International Search Report (w/references)

Information Disclosure Statement (Form PTO-1449)

International Preliminary Examination Report

TO FOLLOW

Patent Attorney